

strategy. Since the order was promulgated, the affected agencies have developed reports and strategies.

Need for the Bill: Although federal agencies and offices have been complying with the Executive Order, disproportionate impacts related to human health and the environment still exist for many minority and low-income communities. These impacts must be addressed over the long term. In addition, due to the lack of resources and political clout of many of these impacted communities, vigilance is required to make sure that disproportionate impacts are reduced and do not continue. As the effort to date has been primarily administrative based on the presidential order and memorandum, these strategies need to be incorporated into the routine functioning of federal agencies and offices through federal law.

The bill—

Requires federal agencies and offices to: include addressing environmental justice concerns into their respective missions; conduct programs so as not to create disproportionate impact on minority and low-income populations; include an examination of the effects of such action on the health and environment of minority and low-income populations for actions that require environmental analyses under the National Environmental Policy Act; create an environmental justice strategy to address disproportionate impacts of its policies and actions, and conduct and collect research on the disproportionate impacts from federal facilities.

Creates an Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group to develop strategies, provide guidance, coordinate research, convene public meetings, and conduct inquiries regarding environmental justice issues.

Creates a Federal Environmental Justice Advisory Committee composed of members of community-based groups, business, academic, state agencies and environmental organizations which will provide input and advice to the Interagency Working Group.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF RON KUNTZ

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today in honor and recognition of acclaimed sports photographer Ron Kuntz, for his masterful artistry in capturing defining moments in Cleveland sports history, a legacy that spans more than fifty years and continues today, and for his ministry of the heart, a vocation that continues to provide light and solace for those living without hope.

Beyond his unwavering dedication to his family and to his profession, Mr. Kuntz shares his stories, photographs and compassion with prisoners in Ohio and across the country. His outreach began thirty years ago, when Mr. Kuntz first volunteered with the Bill Glass Prison Ministry. Mr. Kuntz' gifts of spiritual guidance and kindness continues to serve as a source of comfort and support for those who live in desolate isolation.

The inspiring photographs of Mr. Kuntz jump with energy and emotion from the pages and wires of local and national publications. His ar-

tistry is evidenced in every picture, highlighting his unique ability to seize the true essence of a remarkable moment. From the dark room to the newsroom, Mr. Kuntz brings the emotion and movement of a moment already gone, back to life—a split-second portrait of the human condition framed by athletic competition.

His work chronicles the great legends and legendary moments of professional athletes and teams of Cleveland, especially the Cleveland Indians—from the glowing victories to the crushing defeats. Armed with an affable nature and quick smile, Mr. Kuntz garnered the respect, trust and admiration of everyone around him. His joy for life is reflected in the photographs he has taken, and within his outreach to others.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ron Kuntz brilliant photographer, dedicated family man, and compassionate volunteer, whose work and ministry continues to be a gift to our entire community. As he journeys onward from here, we offer him blessings of health, happiness and peace. We look forward to the continued artistry of Ron Kuntz, a man of heart, integrity and deep sense of service to others, whose very life continues to elevate the lives of others, with a snapshot, handshake, kind word and a smile.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DARRYL KEHRER

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Darryl Kehrer, Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Benefits of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, who is retiring after 37 years, 33 of which were devoted of public service to our nation's veterans.

Darryl's distinguished career in public service began with active duty in the United States Air Force from 1966–1970, after which he received an Honorable Discharge as Staff Sergeant. Since then, he has served with distinction at the Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States Senate, and as Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Benefits of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs at the United States House of Representatives. Furthermore, he served as Executive Director of the Congressional Veterans Claims Adjudication Commission, and Staff Director of the Panel on Veterans' Benefits for the Congressional Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance.

Darryl has dedicated his career to improving the lives of our nation's veterans and to provide them with the very best with respect to benefits and services in their transition to civilian life. He has made significant contributions to the development and enactment of veterans' legislation to improve education, employment, and transition assistance, to name just a few of his accomplishments.

As the Chairman of the Veterans Benefits Subcommittee during the 107th Congress, Darryl's strong work ethic and commitment to the issues was unwavering. He worked tirelessly with me to enact the Jobs for Veterans Act (PL 107–288), and since then he has continued his work with the Department of Labor to ensure the legislation is reaching veterans

and helping them make the transition from military service to civilian employment. His comments and insight into issues affecting veterans was invaluable to me when I served as the Chairman and continues to be today.

Darryl has been a guest instructor at the University of Missouri and the Harry S Truman Library, the John Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, West Potomac and Annandale High Schools in Virginia, the United States Military Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy. Using the Montgomery GI Bill as an example of how legislation is made, he developed a case study on the enactment of this significant piece of veterans legislation, providing students with a hands-on approach to law-making. He has accompanied me to both West Point and the Air Force Academy, where we visited with instructors and spent time with the cadets. At the Air Force Academy, we did a joint presentation to students regarding the Member and staff perspectives of the U.S. Congress. His success as a guest instructor is clearly demonstrated by how frequently these renowned institutions ask him to return.

Darryl's passions are teaching, mentoring, and baseball. He has spent the past fifteen years volunteering for the Annandale Little League, and the League established an ongoing scholarship in his name. Called the "Kehrer Cup," it is awarded to the youngster who personifies the values of Little League Baseball and includes a \$550 scholarship to the Little League Baseball International Summer Camp. He also received the Ellie Doyle Award for his exemplary partnership with the Fairfax County government in youth sports activities. A self-proclaimed "baseball fanatic," Darryl has used his passion to instill the love of the game and the ideals of sportsmanship in children and young adults.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career as a public servant and volunteer in the community, Darryl has exemplified the highest ideals of family, community, and public service. With his retirement, we are losing an exemplary public servant and true friend of our nation's veterans. Thank you, Darryl, for your many years of dedicated service to our nation.

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOGI BHAJAN

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 26, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution honoring the life and numerous contributions of Yogi Bhaajan, the chief religious and administrative authority for Sikhism in the West. Yogi Bhaajan passed away in Española, New Mexico on October 6, 2004 at age 75.

A native of India, Yogi Bhaajan introduced thousands around the world to Sikhism, a religion that carries the message of truthful living and the fundamental unity of humanity, and reaches out to people of all backgrounds to work together for world peace. When he came to the United States in 1968, Yogi Bhaajan recognized immediately that the experience sought by many young people through drugs could be alternatively achieved through